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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

| | |
|------------------------|------------|
| Application Number | 10/772,840 |
| Filing Date | 02-04-2004 |
| First Named Inventor | Hogendijk |
| Art Unit | 3731 |
| Examiner Name | BUI, VY Q |
| Attorney Docket Number | NVS-1050 |

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

| | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation | <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | | |

Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

| | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|----------|---------|
| Firm Name | Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP | | |
| Signature | | | |
| Printed name | Nicola A. Pisano | | |
| Date | April 18, 2005 | Reg. No. | 34, 408 |

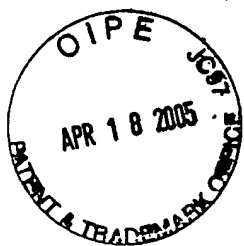
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|------|-----------|
| Signature | | | |
| Typed or printed name | Leigh A. Coleman | Date | 4.15.2005 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Michael Hogendijk)
Serial No.:)
10/772,840)
Filing Date:)
February 4, 2004)
For: RIBBON-TYPE VASCULAR)
PROSTHESIS HAVING STRESS-)
RELIEVING ARTICULATION)
AND METHODS OF USE)

San Diego, California

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97 (b)

Dear Sir or Madam:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant makes the documents, listed on the enclosed form PTO/SB/08, of record in the above-identified application. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not a representation that the information cited is effective as prior art to the application or is material to patentability.

It is respectfully requested that these documents be (1) fully considered by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the examination of the above-identified application; and

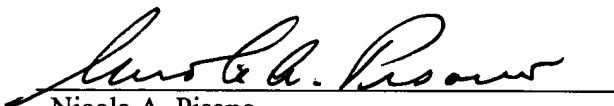
(2) printed on any patent which may issue on this application. It is also respectfully requested that a copy of Form PTO/SB/08, as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned to the undersigned with the next communication in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609.

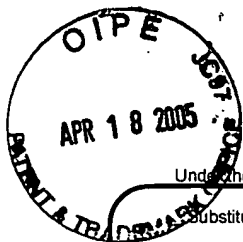
Copies of the U.S. patents listed on the enclosed form PTO/SB/08a are not enclosed, in accordance with the waiver of the requirement of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 that appears in the Official Gazette Notice (Week No. 31) dated August 5, 2003 and entitled "Information Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications Filed After June 30, 2003" and MPEP 609 III. A(2). A copy of the foreign patent publication is enclosed herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing of a first Office Action, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b). Therefore, it is believed that no fee is required in connection with this submission. In the event that a fee is required, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-2298, in the name of Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP.

Respectfully submitted,

Date April 15, 2005


Nicola A. Pisano
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 34,408
c/o LUCE, FORWARD, HAMILTON
& SCRIPPS LLP
11988 El Camino Real, Ste. 200
San Diego, California 92130
Telephone No.: (858) 720-6300



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1

of 3

Complete if Known

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number | 10/772,840 |
| Filing Date | 02-04-2004 |
| First Named Inventor | Michael Hogendijk |
| Art Unit | 3731 |
| Examiner Name | BUI, VY Q |
| Attorney Docket Number | NVS-1050 |

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| | | Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
| | | US- 4,553,545 | 11-19-1985 | Maass et al. | |
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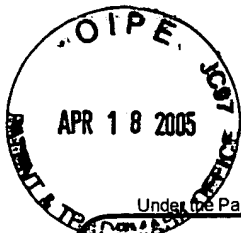
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|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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Sheet 2of 3**Complete if Known**

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| Filing Date | 02-04-2004 |
| First Named Inventor | Michael Hogendijk |
| Art Unit | 3731 |
| Examiner Name | BUI, VY Q |
| Attorney Docket Number | NVS-1050 |

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| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| | | Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
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| Sheet | 3 | of | 3 |
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[illegible][illegible]Date
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